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09/098,366	06/17/1998	NOBUYA HIGASHIYAMA	13237-2150	4032

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EXAMINER

BASHORE, WILLIAM L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2003

31

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/098,366

Applicant(s)

HIGASHIYAMA ET AL. 

Examiner

William L. Bashore

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Request for Reconsideration (hereinafter the Request) filed 9/25/2003 to the original application filed 6/17/1998.
2. Claims 1, 3-21 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van De Vanter and Fukunaga.
3. Claims 22, 27-28 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Multi-Edit.
4. Claims 23-26 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Multi-Edit, and WordPerfect.
5. Claims 1, 3-28 are pending. Claims 1, 10, 15, 21, 22 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. **The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:**

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 1, 3-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van De Vanter, U.S. Patent No. 5,857,212 issued January 1999, in view of Fukunaga, U.S. Patent No. 5,627,948 issued May 1997.**

In regard to independent claim 1, Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with amended claim 1(a) “determining whether a

location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text, wherein the existing text includes existing paragraph marks, existing characters or existing spaces”).

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with amended claim **1(b)** “*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with amended claim **1(b)** “*otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5; compare with amended claim **1(c)** “*selecting one of a plurality of rules based on the collected context information*”).

Van De Vanter teaches changing cursor presentation (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67; compare with amended claim **1(d)** “*in response to selecting the rule, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate an anticipated location of the insertion point...*”). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach indication of formatting types in close proximity. However, Fukunaga teaches display of formatting information proximate to cursor location, subsequent to a change in said cursor location (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim **1(d)** “*...and a type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects located in close proximity to the cursor location*”). It would have been obvious to one

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of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga's taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches the use of cursor movement and placement management (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim 1(e) "*determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document*").

Van De Vanter teaches a method whereby a cursor is positioned in a displayed program for editing purposes (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 58-63). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach performing formatting. However, Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim 1(f) "*if so, then performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document*"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga's taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

In regard to dependent claim 3, Van De Vanter teaches various types of mouse clicks that can be used in the embodiment of the invention as disclosed by Van De Vanter (Van De Vanter column 9 lines 42-44; compare with claim 3).

In regard to dependent claim 4, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach the repeating of steps 1(a) - 1(f) of amended claim 1 upon no indication of cursor placement. However, Van De Vanter teaches repeating the visual offset calculation of alignment markers (Van De Vanter abstract at bottom, also column 42 lines 54-57; compare with claim 4). Claim 4 would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because of Van De Vanter's taught

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advantage of repetition, providing a way to display a complete formatting change to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claim 5, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach a method of formatting comprising the addition/deletion of document formatting properties. However, Fukunaga teaches the changing of format properties (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4, also column 4 lines 8-10; compare with amended claim 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teaching of Fukunaga to the method of Van De Vanter, because of Fukunaga's taught advantage of format changing, providing increased textual correctness to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claim 6, Van De Vanter teaches localized lexical analysis performed subsequent to an insertion point defining a position of user editing, said position indicated by a cursor over text (Van De Vanter column 4 lines 25-33, column 21 lines 65-67; compare with amended claim 6).

In regard to dependent claims 7-8, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach associating a rule with formatting steps, as well as matching context information with a trigger, and selecting a coinciding rule. However, these limitations would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because Van De Vanter teaches how a keystroke executive and a tokenizer respond to a "delete net character" command issued by a user (Van De Vanter column 25 lines 44-50, and Table 6, 7). Certain positional rules are selected and implemented which are dependent upon a cursor position, which suggests triggering events and formatting steps eventually resulting in a final position (compare with claims 7-8), providing the advantage of rules based triggered events for modifying position displays.

In regard to dependent claim 9, a computer-readable medium (ie. diskette, hard disk, etc.) is known in the software art.

In regard to independent claim 10, Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with amended claim **10(a)** “*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text, wherein the existing text includes existing paragraph marks, existing characters or existing spaces*”).

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with amended claim **10(b)** “*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with amended claim **10(b)** “*otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5; compare with amended claim **10(c)** “*applying the collected context information...*”, and “*...to determine whether the collected information coincides with one of the plurality of rules*”). Van De Vanter also teaches the use of a database for storing lexical rules

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(see Van De Vanter column 11 lines 54-57; compare with amended claim 10© “...to a database of a plurality of rules...”).

In addition, Van De Vanter teaches a method of cursor selection and display based upon insertion point position resulting in different editing behaviors and cursor presentations (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67, column 37 lines 1-2; compare with amended claim 10(d) “if so, then determining one of a plurality of cursors associated with the coinciding rule”, and 10(e) “displaying the associated cursor”).

In regard to dependent claim 11, Van De Vanter teaches the presentation of an I-beam cursor based upon the position of an insertion point in the document (Van De Vanter column 37 lines 19-24; compare with claim 11).

In regard to dependent claim 12, Van De Vanter teaches a method of alignment markers placed around tokens for centering lines, and automatic aligning between lines (Van De Vanter column 39 lines 9-23; compare with claim 12).

In regard to dependent claim 13, Van De Vanter does not specifically teach the repeating of steps 10(a) - 10(e) of amended claim 10 upon movement of cursor placement. However, Van De Vanter teaches repeating the visual offset calculation of alignment markers (Van De Vanter abstract at bottom, also column 42 lines 54-57; compare with claim 13). Claim 13 would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because of Van De Vanter’s taught advantage of repetition, providing a way to display a complete formatting change to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claim 14, claim 14 reflects the computer program product comprising computer readable instructions used for implementing the methods as claimed in claim 13, and is rejected using the same rationale.

In regard to independent claim 15, Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with amended claim **15(a)** “*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over existing text, wherein the existing text includes existing paragraph marks, existing characters or existing spaces*”).

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with amended claim **15(b)** “*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over existing text, then collecting context information associated with the existing text*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with amended claim **15(b)** “*otherwise, collecting context information associated with existing text that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5; compare with amended claim **15(c)** “*applying the collected context information...*”, and “*...to determine whether the collected information coincides with one of the plurality of rules*”). Van De Vanter also teaches the use of a database for storing lexical rules

(Van De Vanter column 11 lines 54-57; compare with amended claim 15© “...to a database of a plurality of rules...”).

In addition, Van De Vanter teaches a method of matching an I-beam cursor relevant to various insertion point positions (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 64-67, column 37 lines 1-3; compare with amended claim 15(d) “if so, then adjusting the location of the insertion point based upon the coinciding rule”, and 15(e) “determining whether the location of the insertion point matches the location of the cursor”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach the repeating of steps 15(a) - 15(e). However, Van De Vanter teaches repeating the visual offset calculation of subsequent alignment markers (Van De Vanter abstract at bottom, also column 42 lines 54-57; compare with amended claim 15(f) “if not, then repeating steps (a) - (e)”). Claim 15(f) would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Van De Vanter, because of Van De Vanter’s taught advantage of repetition, providing a way to display a complete formatting change to the method as taught by Van De Vanter.

In regard to dependent claims 16, claim 16 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claimed in claim 8, and is rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claims 17-18, Van De Vanter teaches an embodiment involving secondary memory (Van De Vanter column 8 lines 25-29; compare with claim 17). A computer-readable medium (ie. diskette, hard disk, etc.) is known in the software art (compare with claim 18).

In regard to dependent claim 19, Van De Vanter teaches a method of a token stream, whereby dynamic user input results in updating insertion points and cursor positions of each dynamic editing action which can be used with a mouse (Van De Vanter column 4 lines 25-35, column 9 lines 42-44; compare with claim 19).

In regard to dependent claim 20, Van De Vanter teaches a method of an insertion point defining an actual editing location, said cursor location and analysis is updated subsequent to a user edit (Van De Vanter column 4 lines 25-35; compare with claim 20).

In regard to independent claim 21, Van De Vanter teaches a location of a cursor over existing text (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67; compare with amended claim **21(a)** “*determining whether a location of a cursor in the electronic document is positioned over an existing line*”).

Van De Vanter teaches text editing by managing movement and placement of a cursor relative to text positions (Van De Vanter column 21 lines 65-67, column 12 lines 22-29; compare with amended claim **21(b)** “*collecting context information regarding the location of the cursor in the electronic document by: if the location of the cursor is positioned over an existing line, then collecting context information associated with the existing line*”).

Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10; compare with amended claim **21(b)** “*otherwise, collecting context information associated with an existing line that is proximate to the location of the cursor*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of collecting format information, providing a way to establish format and display correspondence to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches a rule selected from a plurality of rules subsequent to user input (Van De Vanter column 16 lines 65-67, column 17 lines 1-5; compare with amended claim **21(c)** “*selecting one of a plurality of rules based on the collected context information*”).

Van De Vanter teaches changing cursor presentation (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67; compare with amended claim **21(d)** “*in response to selecting the rule, changing a presentation of the cursor to indicate an anticipated location of the insertion point...*”). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach indication of formatting types in close proximity. However, Fukunaga teaches display of formatting information proximate to cursor location, subsequent to a change in said cursor location (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim **21(d)** “*...and a type of formatting that will be applied to text and objects located in close proximity to the cursor location*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

Van De Vanter teaches the use of cursor movement and placement management (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 22-29; compare with claim **21(e)** “*determining whether an indication has been received to place the insertion point in the electronic document*”).

Van De Vanter teaches a method whereby a cursor is positioned in a displayed program for editing purposes (Van De Vanter column 12 lines 58-63). Van De Vanter does not specifically teach performing formatting. However, Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement (Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307; compare with claim **21(f)** “*if so, then performing formatting to place the insertion point in the electronic document*”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Fukunaga to Van De Vanter, because Fukunaga’s taught advantage of format change and display, providing a way to easily show formatting changes to Van De Vanter (Fukunaga column 1 lines 66-67, column 2 lines 1-2).

8. **Claims 22, 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Multi-Edit Text Editor Version 8.0 (hereinafter Multi-Edit), April 29, 1998 by American Cybernetics, application screenshots pp. 1-8.**

In regard to independent claim 22, Multi-Edit teaches an electronic text editor (Multi-Edit page 2; compare with claim 22 "*A computer-implemented method for editing an electronic document comprising:*").

The limitation of receiving notification of an intent to create an insertion point would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, because Multi-Edit teaches a "Restrict cursor" option (Multi-Edit page 3). Unchecking said option results in an unrestricted cursor, so that a user can place said cursor (using typical arrow keys, and/or mouse movement) to any part of a document (both before or after an >>EOF<< (end of file) indication) (Multi-Edit pages 4-5). A user triggers an insertion point subsequent to pressing <ENTER> or typing letters (Multi-Edit page 6-8), providing reasonable suggestion to the skilled artisan of notifying Multi-Edit that a user wants to create an insertion point at any location in a document (i.e. in areas without existing text) (compare with claim 22 "*receiving notification of an intent to create an insertion point at a cursor location in the electronic document*"), providing a user of Multi-Edit the benefit of planning layout of a cursor position prior to creating an insertion point.

Multi-Edit teaches automatically reformatting a document by shifting the >>EOF<< document marker so that it is proximate to a new insertion point, said insertion point previously over an area without text (Multi-Edit pages 5-8; compare with claim 22 "*if the cursor location....at the cursor location.*").

In regard to dependent claims 27-28, Multi-Edit teaches a graphical representation of a document showing areas before and after an >>EOF<< marker in a document (Multi-Edit page 7-8)

9. **Claims 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Multi-Edit Text Editor Version 8.0, April 29, 1998 by American Cybernetics, application screenshots pp. 1-8, in view of WordPerfect for Windows version 6.1 (hereinafter WordPerfect), released 4/15/1996 by Corel Corporation, screenshots from application, pp. 1-10.**

In regard to dependent claims 23-26, Multi-Edit does not specifically teach adding paragraph and other marks vertical and horizontal, as well as context information. However, WordPerfect teaches formatting adjustments for including text and text markers, as well as context information (i.e. new tab, paragraph, and space markers) proximate to (i.e. horizontal and vertical) an input cursor, in the present case, blank2.txt (WordPerfect pp. 8-10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply WordPerfect to Multi-Edit, providing Multi-Edit the benefit of various contextual markers for better planning layout of a document.

10. **Prior art made of record is considered pertinent to disclosure.**

Multi-Edit Text Editor Version 8.0, April 29, 1998 by American Cybernetics, additional application screenshots pp. 9-10.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 9/25/2003 have been fully and carefully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on pages 2-3 of the Request that the Multi-Edit procedure does not specifically teach creating an insertion point at a location in the electronic document where no text exists. The examiner respectfully notes that the instant rejection of claim 22 recites that (Multi-Edit's) unrestricted cursor allows a user to place said cursor (using typical arrow keys, and/or mouse movements) to any part

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of a document (both before or after an >>EOF<< (end of file) indication). The background of Multi-Edit's document window reflects a form of "canvas", which graphically portrays the document page. If one were to take file blank2.txt (the file created in the Multi-Edit screenshots) and open said file in Word, or WordPerfect, the word "hello" would appear in the middle of the displayed document page. Although the (now hidden) EOF marker is situated at the line directly below "hello", acting to prevent cursor placement beyond said word, nevertheless, the rest of the displayed page can be fairly interpreted as part of the document. In additional support of the instant rejections, even if the examiner were to adopt Applicant's interpretation, Multi-Edit teaches that a conventional restricted cursor restricts movement into "free space" (i.e. beyond the end of line or beyond the end of file) (see Multi-Edit additional screenshot page 9). Multi-Edit's unrestricted cursor can allow a cursor to move/insert beyond the end of line as defined by the <ENTER> key, which can occur before the end of file mark, as demonstrated in Multi-Edit additional screenshot page 10).

Applicant argues on pages 3-4 of the Request that the cited art does not specifically teach instant claims 23-26. It is respectfully noted that Multi-Edit does not specifically teach adding paragraph and other marks vertical and horizontal, as well as context information. However, WordPerfect teaches formatting adjustments for including text and text markers, as well as context information (i.e. new tab, paragraph, and space markers) proximate to (i.e. horizontal and vertical) an input cursor, in the present case, blank2.txt (WordPerfect pp. 8-10). Multi-Edit's display of an (otherwise hidden) EOF marker certainly indicates that Multi-Edit is at least capable of displaying such format related indicators. WordPerfect can display paragraph marks, characters, and tab indicators to various document locations via "reveal codes" option. The examiner applies this teaching of WordPerfect to augment Multi-Edit's document display. The examiner uses WordPerfect to show that various formatting marks can be added, modified accordingly, and displayed with a document.

Applicant argues on page 5 of the Request that Van De Vanter does not teach the claimed limitations of representative claim 1 (in particular "*type of formatting*", and "*performing formatting*", as

claimed). It is respectfully noted that Van De Vanter's I-beam can vary the top and bottom (horizontal) parts of said I-beam to reflect size of the visual whitespace gap in which it is positioned, along with various context (Van De Vanter column 36 lines 59-67 to column 37 lines 1-35). The changing of shape and presentation can coincide with commands of the editor (i.e. not responding when a user strikes a spacebar, and cursor blinking – see Van De Vanter column 37 lines 24-28). Fukunaga teaches performing formatting relative to cursor placement, as necessary (see Fukunaga Figures 3, 4 items K, 301-307).

Applicant argues on page 6 of the Request that the cited references do not teach the limitations of claims 10, 15. It is respectfully noted that Van De Vanter does not specifically teach collecting said information proximate to cursor location. However, Fukunaga teaches collecting contextual formatting information of text lines proximate to a cursor position not located over text (Fukunaga Figure 4, also column 3 lines 64-67, column 4 lines 1-10).

Conclusion

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Bashore whose telephone number is **(703) 308-5807**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 11:30 AM to 8:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild, can be reached on **(703) 305-9792**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is **(703) 305-3900**.

14. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

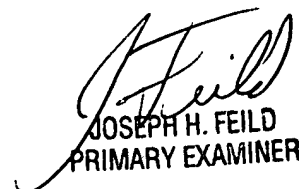
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703-872-9306) (for formal/after-final communications intended for entry)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

William L. Bashore
Patent Examiner, AU 2176
December 11, 2003


JOSEPH H. FEILD
PRIMARY EXAMINER